

“MY REPORT CARD”

A Personal Review on My Time in the Legislature

State Senator Bruce Patterson
District 7

Dear Neighbors and Constituents:

The year 2004 raced to its appointed end, and now a beautiful Spring 2005 is here. It seems like only yesterday we braced for wild winter winds, and now we can look forward to our many community summer festivals. The older I get, the faster times fly. Since I am now more than half-way through my first of two allowable terms in the Michigan Senate, it is right to reflect on my service thus far in the Michigan Legislature.

For over six years it has been my honor and privilege to hold office and serve you, first as a State Representative and now as a Senator. My record is there for all to see:

- **Perfect attendance** {580 Session days scheduled and 580 days actually attended Session; the only state legislator with such a record, out of more than 230 elected to serve during the period 1999 – 2005, to date; and,
- **A near perfect voting record** [6,406 Record Roll Call Votes taken, and only nine Record Roll Call Votes missed in all my career as your Legislator, 1999 – 2005, to date, and six of those because I was meeting with the governor at the time].
- **Perfect attendance, and perfect voting record**, during my entire Senate career, January 2003 – late April 2005.

From these facts alone, I hope you can tell I take my Oath of Office responsibilities seriously. I was elected to work for you. It seems obvious that the best way to accomplish that task is by taking my place in the Capitol's Senate Chamber, studying the issues, making the tough decisions, and casting informed votes.

The record is also clear when it comes to passage of important new legislation. Wayne County currently has 23 legislators serving in the Michigan House and 8 serving in the Michigan Senate. Obviously, I am one of those 31 legislators. Taken as a group, by the end of the last Legislative Session, we had authored 220 Bills that had made it through the entire legislative process, been signed by the Governor, and so had become Michigan Law {Public Acts}. During my six years in office, I have authored **52** of those 220 new Public Acts. (**Nearly one quarter of the total!**)

These 52 laws cover a broad range of topics. They include the last tax cut Gov. Engler signed and the first Public Act Gov. Granholm signed. They developed from Town Hall meetings with you, my Constituents, and from listening to the everyday problems you confront and seek my help in fixing. I have chosen to relate these facts because they represent my **‘Report Card’**. I am proud of my record, and even more proud to represent you in the Michigan Senate!

Inasmuch as I feel personally responsible to you, my Constituents, I believe you have the right to know how I have treated the opportunity you have afforded to me. While you may not have agreed with every position that I have taken on every single issue faced, I want you to know that I have sincerely tried my best to do the job you entrusted to me.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you and our great state of Michigan.

April 20, 2005